(a) whether Government has received representations for re-unification of Punjab Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh Wakf Boards; and

(b) if so, what steps Government is taking in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Representations have been received from time to time on the issue.

(b) No change in the status is envisaged by the Government.

**Streamlining of Wakf Administration**

942. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to implement the recommendations of the JPC for bringing about fresh legislation to streamline Wakf administration;

(b) if so, whether measures in the Sachar Committee Report have been incorporated in the proposed legislation; and

(c) whether steps for computerisation of the records of the Wakf properties would be extended to Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) A proposal for amendment of the Wakf Act, 1995 is under consideration of the Government.

(c) A proposal for computerisation of data management in all State Wakf Boards is also under consideration of the Government.

**Implementation of Sachar Committee Recommendations**

943. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the Sachar Committee recommendations which have since been accepted and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): A statement was laid on the "Follow-up action on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee" in Rajya Sabha on 31.08.2007. The statement included the salient features of the decisions taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee. The status of implementation of some of the important decisions is as under:

(a) All public sector banks have been directed to open more branches in districts having a substantial minority population. In 2007-08, 523 branches were opened in such districts. In 2008-09, 524 new branches were opened.

(b) RBI revised its Master Circular on 5th July, 2007 on priority sector lending for improving credit facilities to minority communities. An amount of Rs 82864 crore was provided to minorities under priority sector lending during 2008-09.